PART VIII.—HORSE-SHOWS.

1. One grand aim in connection with horse-shows should be to develop a local market for stock for sale. (G. R. No. 5505, dated 14th August 1888.)

2. The object of the Provincial Government in holding horse-shows is not so much the purchase of remounts for various departments as to have an opportunity of judging of the general effect of the efforts of Government to improve the breed of horses in the country. (G. R. No. 6435, dated 6th September 1893.)

3. The primary object of Government is to encourage the breeding of sound well-bred horses, and the better the prices breeders obtain for their young stock the more popular will horse-breeding become, and the larger will be the production of sound well-bred young stock. Government will benefit by this in the end, even if it has to put up with some disappointment at first. (G. R. No. 6902, dated 25th September 1893.)

4. Races at horse-shows are calculated to introduce an element of discord which is very undesirable. They should therefore be discouraged and no contributions to race funds should be granted. (G. Rs. Nos. 2839, dated 1st May 1882, and 3867, dated 15th June 1882.)

5. The Superintendent, Civil Veterinary Department, has duties to perform over a wide area, but he has no better opportunity of performing the most important of his duties than at a show to which large numbers of horses are brought. His work at the shows should not be confined to judging and selecting mares suitable for the brand. Local officers will make arrangements for the shows, and give all the assistance in their power, but the classification of animals according to their age and breed requires special knowledge and should ordinarily be done by the Superintendent, Civil Veterinary Department. He should be consulted before the date of opening a horse-show is fixed. (G. R. No. 6880, dated 26th August 1885.)

6. The Superintendent should take an active part in the duties of ageing, classifying and general preparations for a horse-show, and not expect every thing to be done for him by the Revenue and Police Departments. He should be an *executive*, not merely an *inspecting* officer. (G. R. No. 7181, dated 4th September 1885.)

7. The dates of the several horse-shows held in the Deccan, Gujarát and Káthiáwár, and in Sind, which are as a rule attended by the Superintendent, Civil Veterinary Department, should as far as is practicable be so fixed as to enable the Superintendent to visit every show. The District Officers and Political Agents concerned should be requested to propose to the Superintendent the dates which they consider suitable for holding the shows in their

respective charges, and as far as local convenience permits to assist him by so arranging the dates that he may be able to attend as many of the shows as possible. (G. R. No. 7298, dated 14th October 1886.)

(2). Changes in dates of horse and cattle fairs should invariably be reported to the Inspector-General, Civil Veterinary Department. (G. R. No. 10129, dated 20th December 1895.)

8. The Superintendent, Civil Veterinary Department, should attend, if possible, every horse fair and show at which Government prizes are awarded. He should inspect and brand mares and collect necessary statistics in connection with his duties, and as far as possible render assistance, when required, to the Remount Department in purchasing or examining stock. (G. R. No. 703, dated 27th January 1891.)

9. The Superintendent should make notes during his tours and on his visits to shows, on cattle, sheep and goats as well as on horses and ponies, and communicate the results of his observations to the Director of Land Records and Agriculture. (G. R. No. 2011, dated 18th March 1891.)

10. The Superintendent, Civil Veterinary Department, should give due intimation to the Commissary General of the dates of the horse-shows at which mules can be purchased. (G. R. No. 2661, dated 16th April 1891.)

11. The suggestions of the Agricultural Department should be taken regarding the prospectus of horse and cattle shows. The Director of Land Records and Agriculture should be consulted by the officers to whom the management of the shows is entrusted, and the reports on the shows should be submitted to Government through him. (G. R. No. 2825, dated 13th April 1889.)

12. It is desirable that owners should be induced, without bringing any pressure to bear on them, to bring their branded mares and their produce to the show proposed by the Inspector-General, Civil Veterinary Department, in his following letter No. 25-M. D., dated 27th March 1891. The Governor General in Council is willing to leave the details of any action that may be taken to the discretion of the Local Government, but considers that the circulation of an intimation through village officers or otherwise that the mares should, if it is convenient to their owners to take or send them, be exhibited at the show, is the utmost that can be done without incurring any danger of misinterpretation of the intentions of Government :—

"In continuation of this office letter No. 20-M.D.' dated 10th instant, I have the honour to report, for the information of the Government of India, that on the 20th instant I had an opportunity of conferring with the Director, Army Remount Department, at Muzafarnagar, on the subject of annual gathering of all branded mares and their stock.

"2. Colonel Deane concurred with me in the scheme being allowed a fair trial and that it may be tested at some of the horse fairs and shows held annually.

"If proof be afforded of any appreciable advantage being gained by the scheme, it may be gradually extended.

"3. To carry out the proposal it is submitted that District Officers be enjoined to induce all owners to bring or send their branded brood mares and their young stock, for inspection, to their respective district gatherings on dates to be fixed by the District Officer in communication with the officer of the Civil Veterinary Department, timely notice being invariably given of the date and place of assembling.

"4. There will be no additional expense involved in carrying out the scheme as above proposed, and, as previously stated, the advantages in connection with these gatherings will be—

(*a*) the officers of the Civil Veterinary Department will be enabled to judge of the value of the sires and dams employed and of the young stock produced;

(*b*) the Remount Department will have a better chance of securing the best stock got by Government stallions;

(*c*) the breeders will have an opportunity of selling their young stock direct to Government, and obtaining better prices for their animals."

(G. I., R. & A., No. 156, dated 12th June 1891; *vide* G. R. No. 4579, dated 7th July 1891, and G. R. P. D., No. 5676, dated 23rd idem.)

13. The reports on Sind horse-shows should be accompanied by a detailed statement of receipts and expenditure. (G. R. No. 5585, dated 8th July 1892.)